

service has enabled the Air Force to continue to fly, fight, and win in air, space, and cyberspace. I wish him fair winds and following seas.

RECOGNIZING THE 65TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

Mr. NELSON. Mr President, today I wish to recognize and honor the achievements of the 65th Infantry Regiment known as the "Borinqueneers" for their contribution to the defense of our great Nation.

The Borinqueneers were a segregated Puerto Rican Army unit which served our Nation with great distinction during World War I, World War II, and the Korean war. The Borinqueneers served our Nation with valor during a period of history in which their own nation's sovereignty was dependent upon the United States.

The Borinqueneers earned 10 Distinguished Service Crosses, 256 Silver Stars, 606 Bronze Stars, and 2,771 Purple Hearts. Six hundred and seventy Borinqueneers gave the ultimate sacrifice for both Puerto Rico and the United States.

After watching the Borinqueneers in action during his visit to Tokyo, General Douglas MacArthur wrote the following,

The Puerto Ricans forming the ranks of the gallant 65th Infantry Regiment give daily proof on the battlefields of Korea of their courage, determination and resolute will to victory, their invincible loyalty to the United States and their fervent devotion to those immutable principles of human relations which the Americans of the Continent and of Puerto Rico have in common. They are writing a brilliant record of heroism in battle and I am indeed proud to have them under my command. I wish that we could count on many more like them.

I would also like to honor the men and women of Puerto Rico, who wear the uniform of the United States military to this day and continue the legacy of the Borinqueneers. The Borinqueneers have brought great credit upon themselves, the U.S. Army, Puerto Rico, and the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO PEGGY EVANS

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the dedicated career and service to the Congress and the Nation of Ms. Margaret "Peggy" Evans, who is retiring at the end of this month after over 22 years of service in both the executive and legislative branches of our government. She has dedicated most of her life to helping keep our Nation and its citizens secure, and we honor her for her service.

Peggy is leaving the Senate as the budget director of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. During her 4 years on the committee, Peggy has been integral to the development and passage of four annual intelligence au-

thorizations bills, including three within a span of 15 months. She oversaw the committee's budget staff in drafting the classified annexes to the bills, worked collaboratively with the intelligence community agencies and the Office of Management and Budget, and negotiated legislation with other Senate and House committees.

Through her time with the committee, Peggy brought new and creative proposals to the committee and was a fierce advocate for programs that she believed would provide greater effectiveness or efficiency to the intelligence community. She also worked very closely with our committee's Technical Advisory Group, our science and technical advisors, especially in the group's review of imagery satellites, which will no doubt come to be seen as being ahead of its time.

Prior to coming to Capitol Hill, Ms. Evans had served 13 years at the Central Intelligence Agency. Reflecting her many skills, she worked in both the analysis and the operations side of the CIA and also led covert action programs. Although we may not disclose the details, Peggy spent much of her CIA career countering terrorist groups and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Her next national security assignment was in the White House Office of Management and Budget. During her 5 years in that job, Peggy rose from a budget examiner to be Acting Deputy Associate Director for National Security—the President's senior civil servant adviser on the national security budget.

During her time in the private sector, Peggy has also founded and led two companies, one that builds environmentally sustainable homes and one that provides environmental consulting services to homeowners, builders, and facilities managers. These companies earned numerous Energy Star and Green Home Choice Awards.

She is a renaissance woman, skilled in public and private life, and the committee wishes her continued success in her professional endeavors as she returns to private life.

But Peggy's devotion to the Nation's security is matched by her dedication to her family. Peggy and her husband Roger Ney have raised six children and guided them through college and into the start of their careers. With her retirement, she will have more time to spend with them and with her hobbies of reading, pottery, soccer, memorizing arcana from the "Lord of the Rings," designing homes, and spending time at the beach.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to publicly thank Peggy and to note my appreciation for her dedicated and dignified efforts. We will miss your insight and experience and your commitment to pursuing the right policies to protect our Nation.

SALUTING OUR VETERANS

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I am filled with so much pride every time I meet our military veterans who come to the Nation's capital to visit the memorials built to honor them and to commemorate the wars in which they served so courageously.

Today, 31 veterans from West Virginia, representing three generations of warriors, are here to see the memorials that commemorate their sacrifice and valor and for a special ceremony honoring World War II veterans.

And on the occasion of their visit, I want to express my deepest gratitude to these special men who helped keep America free and made the world safer for liberty-loving people across our country and beyond our borders.

I also want to say how much I appreciate the Honor Flight Network, which, since 2005, has arranged for World War II, Korea and Vietnam veterans from all over the country to visit the memorials in Washington—free of any cost to the veterans.

In West Virginia, the driving forces behind the Honor Flight Network are the Denver Foundation and Little Buddy Radio, located in Princeton. These nonprofits were founded by Bob Denver—also known as "Gilligan" from the iconic television show "Gilligan's Island"—and his wife, Dreama, a West Virginia native.

But it was Charlie Thomas Richardson, the Operations Manager at Little Buddy Radio, who got the ball rolling in West Virginia. He introduced the Honor Flight Network to our State, building on the organization established in 2005 by Earl Morse, a physician assistant and retired Air Force Captain in Springfield, OH, to honor the veterans he had cared for.

The 31 veterans from West Virginia visiting Washington today came from Pocahontas, Raleigh, Greenbrier, Mercer, Giles, Wyoming, Nicholas, Fayette and Marion counties.

They range in age from 63 to 94. And while their step has slowed, their spirit is keen, their pride is undiminished, and their patriotism is unbridled.

Eleven served in World War II, one in World War II and Korea, 10 in Korea, one in Korea and Vietnam, four in Vietnam, and two in all three wars.

Two other veterans are serving as escorts for the group, along with three high school ROTC cadets.

These brave West Virginians served this great country in a wide variety of ways—as a B-24 pilot over Italy in World War II; in a heavy mortar company at "Heartbreak Ridge" in Korea; as a helicopter door gunner in Vietnam.

They stitched up wounds in hospitals; they assembled bombs; they inspected combat aircraft; they operated radios and radars; they cooked; and they built roads through jungles and bridges over rivers.

They won the Bronze Star, the Soldier's Medal, the Purple Heart and